RG104 E-1 Box 141 Jul-Sep 1886

New York
July 22nd 1886.

To the Director of the U.S. Mint
Philadelphia. Penna.

Dear Sir:—
I am about to prepare
an article on Gold
ornaments found in
American Mounds
And have four of these
in my possession. these
were recently found
in some Florida Mounds.
I take the liberty of inquir-

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ing if you can kindly
furnish me with the follow-
ing facts

1st Do you or have
you ever had any of
these objects made either
of gold or silver sent
to you from any Indian
graves or mounds in the
United States.

2nd If so who is the
present possessor, and
can I obtain them either
for study or by purchase

3rd Have you any

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analyses of Georgia or North Carolina "gold from river or gravel washing" I am desirous of finding out if mine are of this kind or perhaps, if they were made more recently from spanish coins.

4th Have you any analyses of spanish coins (gold) such as were perhaps brought here in the 16th or 17th century? also the exact weight of the coins of the times.

Very respectfully yours George H. Kunz,

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I mean only the larger
ones of course.
I only ask the question
about coins known that
you have so fine a collec-
tion of the mint.
I will with pleasure
give due credit for
any information furnished
me. I can refer you to
Dr Jos Leidy. Prof J.W.
Mallet &c. I trust that
I am not inconveniencing
you too much. If so will
you please duly notify me
I remain

AMERICAN PEARLS.

At the Philadelphia Meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Mr. Geo. F. Kunz, with Tiffany & Co., New York, read a preliminary paper on the "American Pearl," treating of its history, production, value and uses; quoting in part facts and figures furnished by Messrs. Tiffany & Co. (purchasers of many thousands of these pearls), covering a period from 1857 to date.

As he is still engaged on this subject, which will in the near future be illustrated and published by the United States Fisheries Commission in their bulletin, he would greatly appreciate, and give full credit for, any reliable facts that may be furnished

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Will purchase or take in exchange meteorites for fine crystallized and rare minerals. Intact falls, all the pieces of any fall, and newly found and undescribed ones especially desired. Also information wanted on the occurrence of American gems and gem minerals and American pearls, and facts in regard to, and specimens of, American amber from all known localities, especially if containing enclosures of wood, vegetable or other living matter.

The gem writings of any of the following authors (if not already in my possession), will be purchased in the editions specified below or subsequent editions, and any facts that would be useful in the preparation of a bibliography of gem literature will be thankfully received.

Aben Ezra. (Rabbi) 8vo. Basel, 1527.
Albertus Magnus, all works of.
Agricola (George) all works of.
Aristotle, [illegible], Regia Mersbourg, 1473.
Avicenna, [illegible]en. 1483.
Bechai ben Aschar, all editions.
Bekkerheim (Karl) 8vo, Wien, 1793.
Belleau (René), 4to, Paris, 1576.
Berquen (Robert de), 4to, Paris, 1661.
Boetius (Anselmus), all editions.
Boyle (Hon. Robert), various editions.
Cardan[illegible] (Hieronymus), " "
Cellini (Benvenuto), " "
Clutius (Augerius), 8vo, Rostochii, 1627.
Clave (Estienue), 8vo, Paris, 1635.
Dioscorides, various editions.
Dolce (Ludovico), Ven., 1564.
Ecchellensis (Abraham), 8vo, Paris, 1647.
Ekeberg (Andrew Gustavus), Upsal, 1796.
Encelius (Christoph), 1551.
Evax, 4to, Leipsic, 1585.
Fallopius, (G), Venitia, 1564.
Fernel (John Francis), Hanov., 1605.
Habdarrahmanus (Asiutensis Aegyptius), Paris, 1647.
Hermes Trismegistus, 12 mo., 1657.
History of Jewels, 12mo., London, 1671.
Jonstonus (Johannes), 12mo., Amst., 1632.
Kirani (Kiranides), 12mo, London, 1685.
Kircher (Athanasius), Folio, Arnstelodami, 1678.
König (Emanuel), 4to, Basil, 1687.
Langius (Johannes), Folio, Lugd., 1557.
Leonardus (Camillus, M. D.), 4to., Venitia, 1502.
Mandeville (John), 12mo., Paris, 1561.
Marbodaeus (Gallus), all editions.
Marco Polo, all editions.
Mizaldus (Anton.), 8vo, Lutetia, 1567.
Morales (Gasp. de) 8vo, Madrid, 1605.
Natter Laurentius, Folio, Eng. Ed., London. 1754.
Palm (J. J.), 4to, Londoni Gothorum, 1799.
Paracelsus (into English by J. F., 4to.), London, 1650.
Philostratus, various editions.
Piererus (G. P.), 4to, Argentorati, 1668.
Porta (Giov. Baptista), Antwerp, 1561.
Portaleone (Abraham), Mantua, 1612.
Pott (M. J.), 8vo, Paris, 1753.
Prufer (V.), 4to, Wien, 1847.
Psellus (Michael Constantimes), 8vo, Ludg. Bat., 1795.
Ravius, (S. F.), Arabic, 1784.
Rhosnel, Paris, 1668.
Ruens, (F.), 8vo, Paris, 1547.
Serapion (John), Mediolanum, 1473.
Steno (Nicholaus), London, 1671.
Tavernier's Travels, all editions.

Address, G. F. KUNZ,

P. O. Box 466 New York,

or Hoboken, New Jersey, U. S. A.

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We do not possess, nor do we know of any gold or silver images, that were found within the limits of the United States.

The average of North Carolina gold, taking the estimate from all the deposits at the Charlotte Branch Mint, was, in 1839, .841, and in 1840, .844 fine.

In Georgia, gold has been found as low as 820, and occasionally reaches as high as 995. Average, about 920.

The gold Coins of Spain, before 1872, was. 917 fine. We have no analyses of Spanish gold Coins of the 16th or 17th Century.

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Mint of the United States at Philadelphia,

....., 188 .

We have only two gold Coins of that time, viz: two Quarter — Doubloons of Ferdinand & Isabella, One of 109 grs. wt. and the other, 104.5 grs.

R A McClure

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4039

N.Y.

July 22/86

Geo. F. Kunz

"

Relative to gold ornaments found in the mounds

Recd. July 23 "/86

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[Letter One:]
[Abstract:] Relative to “gold ornaments found in the mounds”.

New York
July 22, 1886

To the Director of the U.S. Mint
Philadelphia, Penna.

Dear Sir: -

I am about to prepare an article or Gold ornaments found in American Mounds and have four of these in my possession. These were recently found in some Florida Mounds. I take the liberty of inquiring if you can kindly furnish me with the following facts:

1st Do you or have you ever had any of these objects made either of gold or silver sent to you from any Indian graves or mounds in the United States.

2nd If so who is the present possessor, and can I obtain them either for study or by purchase.

3rd Have you any analyses of Georgia or North Carolina “gold from river or gravel washings”. I am desirous of finding out if mine are of this kind or perhaps, if they were made more recently from Spanish coins.

4th Have you any analyses of Spanish coins (gold) such as were perhaps brought here in the 15th or 17th century?

Also the exact weight of the coins of the times.

I mean only the larger ones of course.

I only ask the question about coins knowing that you have so fine a collection at the Mint. I will with pleasure give due credit for any information furnished me. I can refer you to Dr. Jos. Leidy, Prof. J.W. Mallet &c. Trusting that I am not inconveniencing you too much. If so will you please duly notify me. I remain

Very respectfully yours,
George F. Kunz

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[Letter Two:]

American Pearls.

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[Letter Three:]

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[Letter Four:]

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R.A. McClure